

minulis: fronte declivi, in descensu sinuato: rostro brevi, gracillimo, subcylindrico: pinnâ dorsali paulo ante medium longitudinis desinenti: ano infra radium primum dorsalem sito: pinnis pectoralibus parvis, anali minutissimâ; caudali distinctâ.

D. 31; A. 3?; C. 10; P. 14.

LONG. unc. 4. lin. 7.

FORM.—Body rather thick and somewhat cylindrical; the greatest depth and thickness nearly equal, the former being about one-twenty-seventh of the entire length. From the head to the vent hexagonal, the middle lateral ridges terminating abruptly, when opposite the commencement of the dorsal fin, without inclining either upwards or downwards. Fifteen transverse plates between the gills and the dorsal fin: only fifty-four in all, the tail not tapering so much as in many other species. Head much pinched in at the gills, but rather full and protuberant about the cheeks: its length ten and a half times in the entire length. Crown high and convex: a ridge commencing at the occiput passes backward to the nape. Eyes large and full, with somewhat of a spectacled appearance; their diameter equal to the whole depth of that part of the head; the orbits rising in ridges above them, with the intervening space concave. From between the eyes the profile descends in a sinuous curve to the base of the snout, which is short, slender, very narrow, and almost cylindrical. The length of the snout is less than half the entire length of the head; its breadth, vertically, only one-third the depth of the same taken behind the eyes.

The dorsal commences beyond one-third of the entire length, occupies one-ninth of the same, and terminates a little before the middle: nearly even, and rather high, more than equalling the depth of the body underneath. Vent about underneath the first ray, but almost in advance of the dorsal fin altogether. Anal extremely minute. Pectorals very small. Caudal rays distinct.

COLOUR.—Trunk greyish-brown, with deep brown interrupted transverse fasciæ. In front of the dorsal, the fasciæ terminate at the middle lateral ridge, below which the sides are spotted. Dorsal fin also a little spotted. Cheeks whitish, with two very distinct narrow longitudinal vittæ extending backwards from the eyes to the posterior part of the opercle.

Habitat, Tahiti.

A well-marked species, and apparently undescribed. The only specimen in the collection is a female, and, like the last, perhaps not full-sized.

3. SYNGNATHUS CRINITUS. Jen.

PLATE XXVII. fig. 5.

S. griseus; ventre, et maculâ operculari, nigricantibus: corpore crassiore, antice heptagono, postice quadrangulo, angulis acutis: vertice parum elevato; cristis occipitali et nuchali distinctis: rostro brevissimo, subcylindrico, capite angustiore, postice supra carinato, apice subrecurvo: cirris duobus, minutis, filamentosis, palpebralis: pinnâ dorsali paulo ante medium longitudinis desinente; ano infra initium ejus sito: pinnis pectoralibus et caudali parvis; anali nullâ.

LONG. unc. 3. lin. 5.

FORM.—Body thickish, the greatest depth and thickness nearly equal, the former about one-twenty-fifth of the whole length. From the head to the vent heptangular; tail quadrangular: all the angles sharp and distinctly marked. The middle lateral ridges in the heptangular portion pass downwards at their extremities to terminate at the vent. Sixteen transverse plates before the dorsal: only fifty-two in the whole length. Head short, about one-eleventh of the entire length, not more compressed than the body. Crown not much elevated, but with distinct occipital and nuchal ridges. Orbits rising in ridges above the eyes, the interocular space being hollowed out: also a ridge commencing between the eyes, and passing forwards along the base of the snout, but not reaching to its extremity. Snout itself very short, its length only one-third the entire length of the head, narrower than the head vertically, nearly cylindrical, the tip slightly recurved. A few very short minute filamentous threads scattered about the head, more particularly one over each eye.

Dorsal placed much as in the last species, and terminating a little before the middle; the rays delicate and not easily counted, about twenty. Vent beneath the commencement of the dorsal. No anal distinguishable even under a lens. Pectorals very small. Caudal moderately distinct.

COLOUR.—Grey: a spot on the gill-cover, and the belly, dusky. The carinæ which form the edges of the under surface of the body are darker still, and shew a fine dark line on each side extending to the caudal.

Habitat, Bahia Blanca, Northern Patagonia.

Apparently another new species of this genus, taken by Mr. Darwin at Bahia, and, like the last, well-marked; especially by the short filaments above the eyes, which I am not aware occur in any other known species.